Minister to react on this and tell us what specific programmes the Government has...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Ministers do not reply to Special Mentions. If the hon. Member wants to raise this issue...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHIR SOM PAL): Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. I am going to admit a Calling Attention in the next week so that detailed anwers can come

SHRI SOM PAL: Sir, what I was going to say...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Once you start you will have to react to others also. I don't want that you should be partial.

We will take it up in the next week.

Scarcity of Drinking water and power in Different Parts of the Country

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): Sir, ever since we came here for the Session, we have been receiving telephone calls from residents of different parts of Delhi. Rather than calling it a shortage, they have been trying to find out when they will get the normal supply of water and electricity. It is a fact that they are getting power and water more as an exception than the rule. Added to this problem are the funny statements that we are hearing everyday in Delhi from very important people who are just advising the residents to stay in one room, go to their offices on bicycles and so on and so forth. Now, throughout these last two days, Thursday and Friday, we were charged on this issue of nuclear power and nuclear blasts. We understand that the Government has a certain priority and we also concede that it is an important priority. But at the same time, what we would like to tell the Government unambiguously is that it cannot play with fire. You should explain to us. There should be a statement in this House as to why the entire power system and the entire water supply system in Delhi has collapsed. This is something on which the man-in-the-street is really agitated. Without making any funny statements, tell us why the Northern Grid has totally come to a standstill. The Power Minister goes to different parts of the country and gives big lectures. But what kind of monitoring is there of the power plants? What is the level of generation? What is the PLF? Why is the entire North India reeling under this heat wave? The entire North India is being totally denied of electricity supply. Then, what about the water supply system? Why are the people not getting water? We understand that the Government is concerned about national security. But these are the basic amenities of the people. Why is there no response? Why isn't there a *suo motu* statement by the Government?

So, Mr. Chairman, Sir, we charge that this Government is insensitive to the needs of the poeple and the horrible conditions to which people have been subjected—what to talk of other parts of the country, what to talk of the backward areas of the country. Now, if that is the situation, will the Government be kind enough to come in the House with a full-fledged statement delineating the reasons, the severity of the crisis and also delineating the reasons as to why this is so and why the Government has failed to respond to this kind of a critical situation.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN (MAHARASHTRA): Sir, may I make a request? This is such a serious matter that I don't thing merely making a Special Mention is going to help us at all. I request you to kindly fix up a time for some kind of a discussion, as things are going from bad to worse and nobody seems to be bothering about it. After all, Members will receive replies of these Special Mention after one month or two months. We should not allow that kind of a situation to happen. Kindly fix up a time and we will discuss this matter in the House, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Members feel that this may be turned into a Short Duration Discussion, then we can do it. So, the Members need not ask for making Special Mentions today. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, my name is already there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me tell you ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NAIK): Sir, I will respond as Minister of...

MR CHAIRMAN: No, no. Not just now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

This question relates to a large number of people. This is not a question of Delhi alone. There is scarcity of drinking water and power in different parts of the country.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I wanted to say that we are ready for any discussion as it is a serious issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. We will discuss it but not now. Shri W. Angou Singh.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA (NOMINATED): Sir, I want to say a few words.

MR. CHAIRMAN: On what?

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, I want to speak on shortage of power.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. we are going to take it up separately.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, I just want to take a very short time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, not now.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, the other day on the T.V., some chief engineer said that the trouble was that he could not maintain the lines because it was too cold in January and February and too hot in March and April. Such frivolous statements will naturally make things worse.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I agree with you. That is why we will take it up in a separtate Short Duration Discussion.

Non-Fulfilment of Merger Agreement Between Government of India and Maharaja of Manipur

SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH (Manipur): Sir, I now raise a burning issue of the State of Manipur which creeps in every year on 15th October for calling a bandh in Manipur in connection with the Marger Agreement of the Government of India.

Sir, Manipur came under the British Paramouncy after it was defeated by the British in 1891 but it was kept independent as the British Government did not annex Manipur into the British Dominion. India attained independence on 15th August, 1947 and Manipur was merged into the Dominion of India on 15th October, 1949. Before merging into the Indian Dominion, Manipur was an independent State with its own democratically elected representatives. The election to the Manipur State Assembly was held in the month of July 1948 on the basis of adult franchise, the first of its kind in India, under the Manipur State Constitution Act of 1947. That shows that the people of Manipur enjoyed from 1947 onwards most of the fundamental rights which are now guaranteed by the Constitution of India. The Manipur Merger Agreement with the Dominion of India was signed on 21st September, 1949 between the Governor-General of India and His Highness the Maharaja of Manipur. Manipur became part and parcel of India of India After India became independent and adopted its Constitution on 26th January, 1950.

Manipur, which was a princely independent State during the British regime became Part-C State and the Union Territories Act, 1950 came into force on the 16th day of April, 1950 and the Chief Commissioner became the Administrator of the State. Later, in September, 1971, Manipur got Statehood during the time of Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India and the first Statehood election was held in February, 1972.

In the population Census of 1991, Manipur reached the 18,37,149 mark and its literacy percentage is 71.63 for male and 47.6 for female and the total percentage of literacy is 59.89, higher than the Indian literacy percentage of 52.2.

The present number of unemployed people registered in the Employment Exchange is 3,20098 out of which the number of graduates and post-graduates in arts, science and commerce is 28,599 and 4,562 respectively. There are more than 2,000 graduate engineers in different trades such as agriculture, medicine, veterinary, law, education and others and more than 200 post-graduates. The diploma-holders in engineering and technology are more than 1600 who are unemployed.

As per the Merger Agreement with the Government of India in its article VIII(3) it is clearly stated that the Government of India would undertake to make suitable provisions for employment of Manipuris in various branches of the public services, and in every way encourage Manipuris to join them. This clearly is stated in the Merger Agreement. Even after 50 years of India's Independence, no measures for employment of Manipuris in